

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20. (canceled)

Claims 21-29 (canceled)

Claim 30. (currently amended) A method of distributing digital data content to a viewer comprising:

transmitting the digital data content to the viewer;

providing a mechanism for the viewer to select desired digital data content for separate storage from the digital data content received by the viewer; and

receiving at a location remote from the viewer digital data content displaying information from the viewer to verify that selected digital data content has been displayed from the separate storage.

Claim 31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising: transmitting additional information to the viewer along with the digital data content wherein the additional data is a digital data content listing; and

providing a mechanism for the viewer to display any of the selected digital data content from storage that was previously selected.

Claim 32 (previously presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising periodically updating the additional data.

Claim 33. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the providing the mechanism for the viewer to select desired digital data content from the digital data content received comprises displaying the digital data content by category.

Claim 34. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising preventing the selected and stored digital data content from being displayed on unauthorized devices.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the preventing comprises inserting coding in the digital data content which prevents display on unauthorized devices.

Claim 36. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising enabling a display device for displaying of the selected and stored digital data content.

Claim 37. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the enabling comprises transmitting an enabling signal to the display device from the remote location.

Claim 38. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the digital data content is transmitted to a plurality of viewers, the method further comprising altering the selected and stored digital data content to identify the particular viewer from the plurality of viewers.

Claim 39. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the altering comprises inserting a digital watermark in the selected digital data content prior to storage.

Claim 40. (canceled)

Claim 41. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the additional information is promotional information on digital data content.

Claim 42. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the additional information is a soundtrack corresponding to the video image data.

Claim 43. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising automatically selecting desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content for storage received by the viewer according to predetermined criteria that is according to a viewer preference.

Claim 44. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising automatically selecting desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content

for storage received by the viewer according to predetermined criteria that is according to a viewer profile.

Claim 45. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising advising the viewer of the storage of the additional information.

Claim 46. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising detecting data errors in the stored digital data content.

Claim 47. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, further comprising informing the viewer of detected data errors in the stored digital data content and providing a mechanism for the viewer to either display the digital data content with errors or repair the errors in the digital data content.

Claim 48. (previously presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the repair of the errors in the digital data content comprises retransmitting the digital data content and storing the retransmitted digital data content.

Claim 49. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, further comprising designating a degree of errors in the stored digital data content and informing the viewer of the degree of errors.

Claim 50. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, further comprising crediting a provider of the digital data content upon displaying of the digital data content.

Claim 51-55. (canceled)

Claim 56. (previously presented) A method of distributing digital data content to a viewer, the method comprising:

- transmitting the digital data content to the viewer;
- automatically selecting desired digital data content from the digital data content received according to a predetermined criteria, wherein the predetermined criteria is determined randomly on a periodic basis;
- and
- receiving digital data content displaying information from the viewer at a remote location to verify that a selected digital data content has been displayed.

Claim 57. (previously presented) A method of distributing digital data content to a viewer, the method comprising:

- transmitting the digital data content to the viewer;
- automatically selecting desired digital data content from the digital data content received by the viewer according to a predetermined criteria, wherein the predetermined criteria is based on the popularity of the digital data content;
- and receiving digital data content displaying information from the viewer at a remote location to verify that a selected digital data content has been displayed.

Claim 58. (canceled)

Claim 59. (canceled)

Claim 60. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

- transmitting classification information in a header of at least some of the digital data content;
- comparing the classification information to preference information of the viewer; and
- automatically selecting digital data content from the digital data content having a predetermined degree of similarity between the classification information and the preference information.

Claim 61. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, further comprising overwriting stored digital data content with the automatically selected digital data content according to a predetermined criteria.

Claim 62. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein the predetermined criteria is that oldest stored digital data content is overwritten with the automatically selected digital data content.

Claim 63. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein the predetermined criteria is that older releases of stored digital data content is overwritten with the automatically selected digital data content.

Claim 64. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein the predetermined criteria is that stored digital data content which least fits a preference of the viewer is overwritten with the automatically selected digital data content.

Claims 65-106. (canceled)

Claim 107. (previously presented) A user station for displaying digital data content, the user station comprising:

- a receiver to receive digital data content;
- a mechanism that automatically selects from the digital data content for storage in a memory randomly on a periodic basis.

Claim 108. (currently amended) A user station for displaying digital data content, the user station comprising:

- a receiver to receive digital data content;
- a mechanism that automatically selects from the digital data content received, for storage in a memory based on the popularity of the digital data content.

Claims 109-110. (canceled)

111. (previously presented) The user station of claim 107 wherein the mechanism that automatically selects from the digital data content makes said selection after said digital data content is received at the user station.

112. (previously presented) The user station of claim 108 wherein the mechanism that automatically selects from the digital data content, makes said selection after said digital data content is received at the user station.

113. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the mechanism for the viewer to select desired digital data content for storage from the digital data content received by the viewer enables said selection only after all the digital data content of a particular program available for selection is received by the viewer.

114. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the additional data is a digital data content transmission schedule.

115. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the additional data is pricing data for displaying the digital data content.

116. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the additional data is a link to digital data content summary.

117. (previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the additional data is a link to critical review of the digital data content.

118. (currently amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the additional data is a link to a sample of the digital data content.

119. (currently amended) A system for distributing digital data content to a viewer comprising:

a transmitting mechanism ~~capable of transmitting~~ configured to transmit the digital data content to the viewer before selection of desired content for storage at a location of the viewer; and

a verification mechanism, capable of verifying that selected desired digital data content for storage from the digital data content received by the viewer has been displayed at the viewer's location.

120. (previously presented) The system of claim 119 wherein said selection is for permanent recording and is made only after all of said digital data content of a particular program is received at the location of the viewer.